

**2013 AARP SURVEY  
OF OREGON MEMBERS ON  
LONG-TERM CARE AND  
CAREGIVING ISSUES**

**Report Prepared by  
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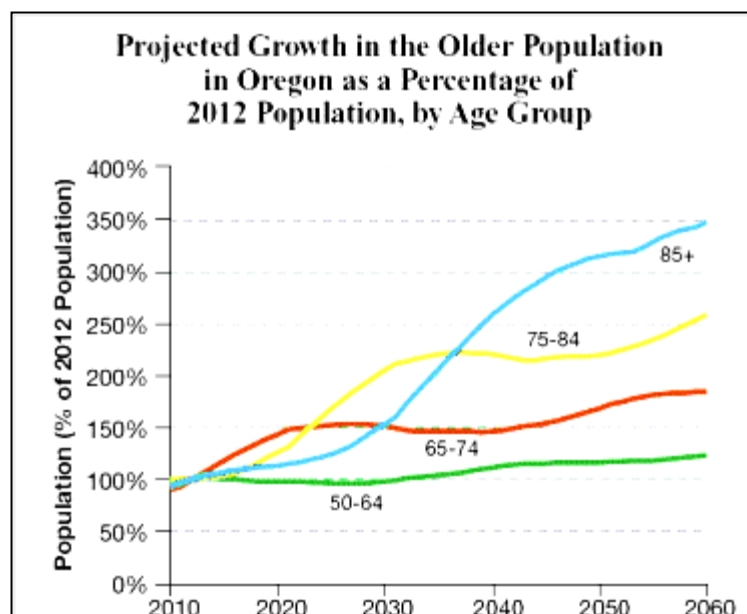
**March 2013**

## 2013 AARP Survey of Oregon Members on Long-Term Care and Caregiving Issues

***AARP members expect Oregon’s elected officials to support and invest in long-term care services, and want a system that promotes choice, independence, and dignity at home and home-like settings. Many worry about whether they can remain at home as they age.***

### SURVEY BACKGROUND

The older adult population is rapidly increasing and the need for long term services and supports rises greatly as individuals reach ages 85 and older. Over the next ten years, the number of Oregonians ages 85 and older is projected to increase from 80,959 in 2010 to 121,741 in 2022.<sup>1,2</sup> It is estimated that about 70 percent of adults currently ages 65 and older will need some type of long-term care (LTC) at some point in their lifetime. The National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information defines long-term care for vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities as, “...a range of services and supports needed to meet health or personal needs over a long period of time. Most long-term care is not medical care, but rather assistance with the basic personal tasks of everyday life.” LTC services and supports vary greatly in cost and are not covered by traditional medical health plans.<sup>3</sup>



<sup>1</sup> AARP 2012 Across the States: Profiles of Long Term Services and Support. Oregon.

[http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/research/public\\_policy\\_institute/ltc/2012/across-the-states-2012-oregon-AARP-ppi-ltc.pdf](http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/research/public_policy_institute/ltc/2012/across-the-states-2012-oregon-AARP-ppi-ltc.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>State of Oregon Long-Term Care Ombudsmen. 2012 Report to the Governor and Legislature.

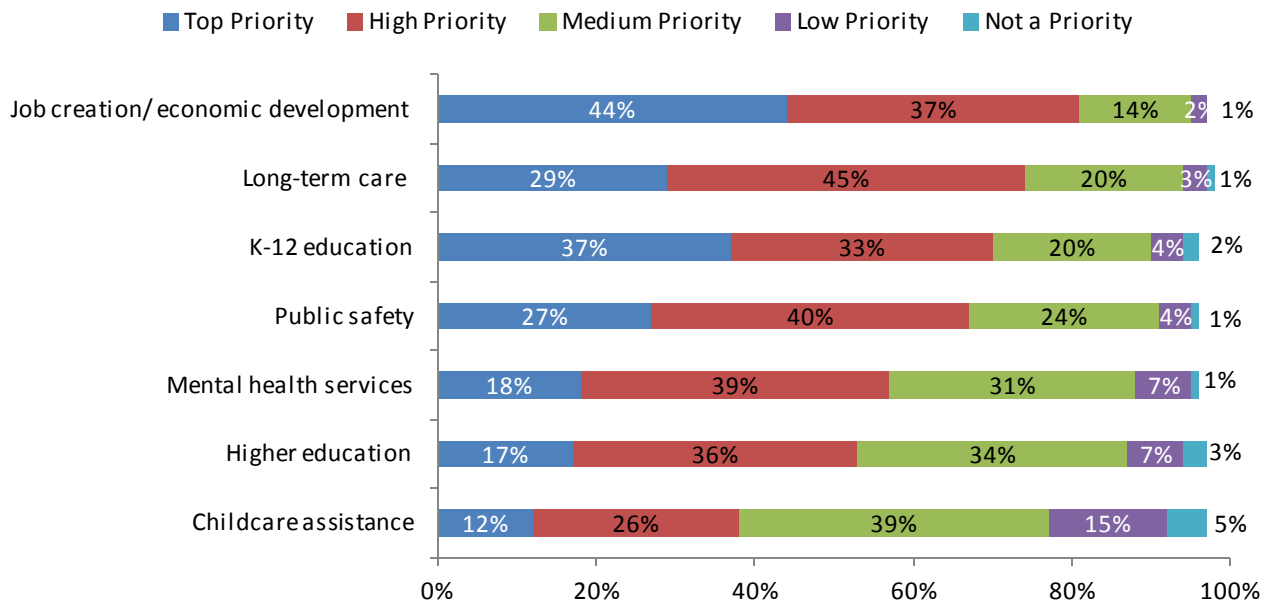
<http://www.oregon.gov/LTCO/AnalyticsReports/LTCACReport2012.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> National Clearinghouse for Long-Term Care Information, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services.

[http://www.longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main\\_Site/Planning/Index.aspx](http://www.longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main_Site/Planning/Index.aspx)

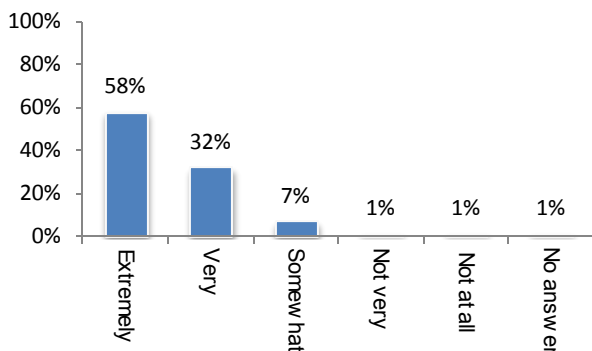
Long-term care is an issue that is important to Oregon members. When asked to rate seven important issues Oregon elected officials should make a priority, the top three issues are jobs creation and development, long-term care services for vulnerable and low-income adults, and K-12 education. About three-quarters of respondents say that the top two issues, jobs and long-term care, should be a top priority for elected officials.

### Priorities for Oregon Elected Officials (n=656 members)

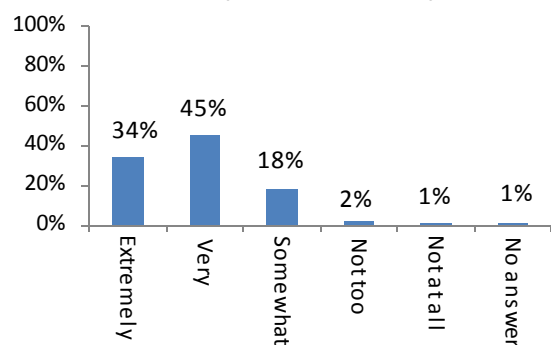


When asked about long-term care services, almost all respondents (98%) in the survey say they want to be able to choose how and where they or their family members receive long-term care. Additionally, the survey shows that 79 percent of Oregon members say it is extremely or very important for them to have home and community based services available in their community. Services in the community promote independence, choice and dignity.

### Importance of Choosing How and Where Long-Term Care is Received (n=656 member)

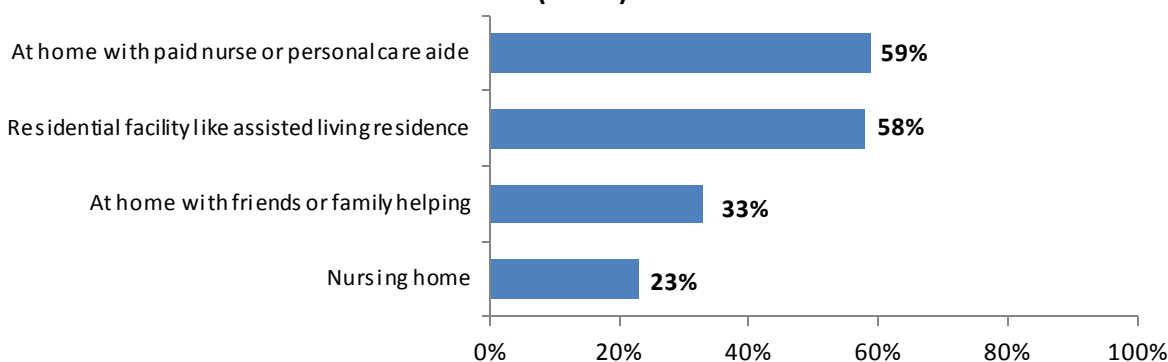


### Importance of Having Home and Community-Based Services in Community (n=656 members)



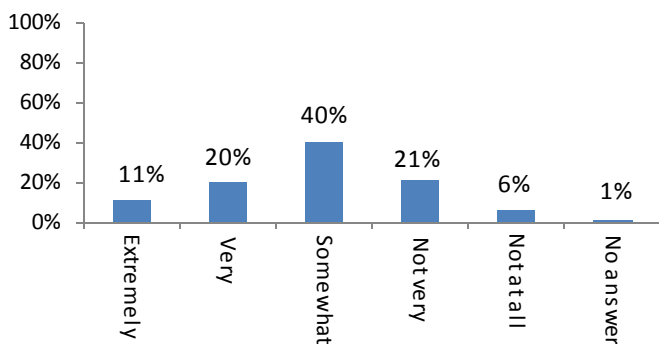
When asked where they would prefer to receive long-term care services, one-third of Oregon AARP members say they would prefer to be cared for by friends and/or family at home, and 59 percent said they would prefer to pay a nurse or a personal care aide to provide the care at home. Fifty-eight percent said they would prefer to have care provided in a residential facility, such as an assisted living residence, while about one-quarter preferred a nursing home. Across all four options, about one-quarter or more say they were not sure or did not respond to this question. A possible explanation could be that the respondents lack information about what the actual costs would be for each care option, or it might reflect that they have not thought through the situation and are considering how to be least burdensome to family members and friends.

**Where Long-Term Care Is Preferred**  
(n=656)

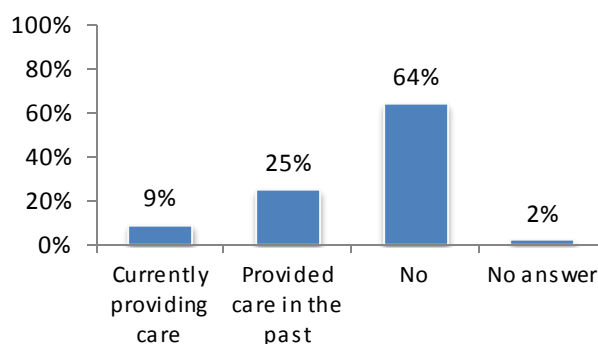


Being able to stay at home as they age, and having home and community based services available in their community is important to many AARP Oregon members. Thirty-one percent say they are extremely or very worried about staying in their own homes as they age. Members likely understand that in their lifetime they will need caregiving, provide caregiving, or be a caregiver. In fact, about one-third (34%) say they are either currently providing care (9%) or have provided caregiving assistance in the past (25%).

**Worried About Being Able to Stay in Own Home As They Age**  
(n=656 members)



**Providing or Provided Caregiving in the Past**  
(n=656 members)



## **Methodology**

This report is based on data from a mail survey of 2,000 AARP members residing in the state of Oregon. Each respondent was contacted at most four times receiving the following pieces of mail: pre-notification postcard, the first survey, a reminder postcard, and a second survey.

The survey was fielded from November 28, 2012 through January 18, 2013 and exactly 656 useable surveys were returned by the cut-off date, for a response rate of 33 percent. The survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.8 percent at a 95 percent confidence interval. The sample was weighted by age and gender of AARP members in Oregon.

Percents may not add to 100 percent due to rounding. Also due to rounding, the percentages reported in the text may vary slightly from those in the annotation or in graphs.

## 2012 AARP Oregon Member Survey (n=656 members)

### State Legislative Issues

1. AARP wants to know what issues are most important for its members. How much of a priority do you think it should be for elected officials to work on the following in Oregon?

		<b>Top priority</b>	<b>High priority</b>	<b>Medium priority</b>	<b>Low priority</b>	<b>Not a priority</b>	<b>No Answer</b>
a.	Long-term care for vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities	29%	45%	20%	3%	1%	2%
b.	K-12 education	37%	33%	20%	4%	2%	4%
c.	Higher education including community colleges and universities	17%	36%	34%	7%	3%	4%
d.	Public safety	27%	40%	24%	4%	1%	4%
e.	Job creation and economic development	44%	37%	14%	2%	<0.50%	3%
f.	Mental health services	18%	39%	31%	7%	1%	4%
g.	Childcare assistance for low-income parents	12%	26%	39%	15%	5%	3%

## Long-Term Care

2. As you may know, long-term care refers to supports and services provided over an extended period of time at home, in a community setting such as an adult day care center or assisted living facility, or in a nursing home. These supports and services are available to people of all ages who are frail, ill, or have a disability and who need help with regular daily activities – such as getting dressed, bathing, preparing meals, or eating.

How important would it be to you to be able to choose how and where you or your family member receives long-term care services?

58%	Extremely important
32%	Very important
7%	Somewhat important
1%	Not too important
<0.50%	Not important at all
1%	No Answer

3. Thinking about you and your family in the future, how worried are you about staying in your own home as you get older?

11%	Extremely worried
20%	Very worried
40%	Somewhat worried
21%	Not very worried
6%	Not at all worried
1%	No Answer

4. How important is it to you that home and community-based services, such as in-home care, personal care, social adult day care services and transportation, be available in your community?

34%	Extremely important
45%	Very important
18%	Somewhat important
2%	Not too important
<0.50%	Not important at all
1%	No Answer

5. There are several long-term care services available for people who are frail, ill or have a disability. These services can be provided at home, in another residential setting such as assisted living, or in a nursing home. Would you prefer the following types of care options for yourself or a family member who needed long-term care?

		Yes	No	Not sure	No Answer
a.	Have family and friends provide all the care at home	33%	40%	19%	9%
b.	Pay a nurse or a personal care aide to provide care at home	59%	13%	19%	9%
c.	Have care provided in a residential facility, such as assisted living, where housing, food, and personal care such as help with bathing and dressing are provided for residents	58%	16%	18%	8%
d.	Have care provided in a nursing home	23%	45%	20%	13%

6. Are you currently providing unpaid assistance, or have you provided, unpaid assistance in the past year to care for a relative, friend, spouse, companion or partner 18 years or older who is ill, frail, elderly, or has a physical, mental, or emotional disability?

9%	Yes, I am currently providing care
25%	Yes, I have provided care in the past
64%	No
2%	No Answer

### About You –

*The following questions are for classification purposes only and kept entirely confidential.*

- D1. Are you male or female?

41%	Male
59%	Female
<0.50%	No Answer

- D2. What is your age as of your last birthday? \_\_\_\_\_ (in years)

19%	50 - 59
53%	60 - 74
28%	75 +
–	No Answer



D3. What is the highest level of education that you completed?

7%	0-12th grade (no diploma)
18%	High school graduate (or equivalent)
22%	Post-high-school education (no degree)
10%	2-year college degree
15%	2-year college degree
8%	Post-graduate study (no degree)
20%	Graduate or professional degree
1%	No Answer

D4. Are you of Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino origin or descent?

2%	Yes
95%	No
3%	No Answer

D5. What is your race?

93%	White or Caucasian
<0.50%	Black or African American
1%	American Indian or Alaska Native
1%	Asian
–	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
1%	Other
4%	No Answer

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with a membership of more than 37 million, that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment security and retirement planning. We advocate for consumers in the marketplace by selecting products and services of high quality and value to carry the AARP name as well as help our members obtain discounts on a wide range of products, travel, and services. A trusted source for lifestyle tips, news and educational information, AARP produces AARP The Magazine, the world's largest circulation magazine; AARP Bulletin; [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org); AARP TV & Radio; AARP Books; and AARP en Español, a bilingual news source. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to political campaigns or candidates. The AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. AARP has staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Learn more at [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org).

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The views expressed herein are for information, debate, and discussion, and do not necessarily represent official policies of AARP.

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